

The Soul of Polynesia

CHAPTER V

THE SOUL OF POLYNESIA

IT would be difficult to say which is the more lovely, the road north of Papeete or the road south. North, as we have seen, the traveller has the beauty of the Diadem as one views it from the valley of Fautaua, a lovely sweep of mountain country between the fourth and fifth kilometres, the bay of Arue proper with the tomb of Pomare, the hill of Haapape, the descent to the approach to Point Venus, the stretch of rocky casuarina-girt coast beyond, and at last, the great river and valley of Papenoo. In imagination we have gone up it to the interior, skirted Mount Orohena and come out to the west by the valley of the

Punaruu, the * Deserted Valley/ But it
was only